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DORKING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of

THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1956

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Public Health Department,  
West Hill House,  
West Hill,  
EPSOM,  
Surrey.

October, 1957.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Dorking Urban District Council

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit an Annual Report for the year 1956, which has been prepared in accordance with the requirements outlined in Circular 19/56 of the Ministry of Health.

The nature of the report requires the inclusion of a considerable amount of statistical matter. At the same time, an endeavour has again been made to indicate briefly the health services administered not only by the Urban District Council, but also by the Surrey County Council. As these vary little from year to year, repetition has been inevitable.

The vital statistics showed a considerable rise in the birth-rate compared with last year's low figure. The same remark applies, unfortunately, to the death-rate. The explanation in both instances is that considerable fluctuations are inevitable from year to year when dealing with comparatively small totals, and that they largely disappear when an average of the figures is made over a period. The principle cause for the rise in the death-rate was an increase in the number of deaths from diseases of the vascular system and from malignant disease in the older age-groups of the population. It is disappointing to record that among the deaths was one connected with pregnancy. A note on the occurrence of maternal deaths which have been registered since 1951 is included in Section 1 of the report. Another disappointment is the fact that for the third year in succession the infant mortality rate was higher than the rate for England and Wales.

The incidence of infectious disease was low, and there was no epidemic which calls for special mention.

The proportion of children receiving treatment now available for the prevention of several of the infectious diseases reached a satisfactory level, and reflects credit on parents, the medical practitioner service and the divisional health service.

The latest addition to the list of immunising procedures is vaccination against poliomyelitis, on which hopes rest as an effective counter to infection from this dangerous virus. Because of the shortage of material, a slow start has been inevitable in this new campaign. The organisation is available to deal with larger numbers of children as soon as the distribution of the vaccine is increased.



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I wish to remind the Council of the very meritorious work performed by all members of the staff of the Public Health Department, whether engaged on technical duties or in clerical and office work. I am particularly obliged to the Chief Public Health Inspector for his willing co-operation in many matters.

I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Council, and particularly to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, for their continued support.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CYRUS IVE,

Medical Officer of Health.

DORKING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1956 - 1957

Chairman of the Committee

Councillor E. Lacy-Hulbert, F.R.S.A.

Members      "      "

"      W. E. A. Bull, F.R.I.C.S.

"      R. W. H. Covell

"      J. Pickersgill, M.P.S.

"      Mrs. M. F. Pleydell-Bouverie

"      J. W. Stemp

"      J. W. Todd

Ex Officio Members

Chairman of the Council

Councillor B. A. Johnston, J.F., LL.B.

Vice-Chairman "      "

"      W. H. Etheridge

Representatives of the Council on

(1)    SOUTHERN DIVISIONAL (HEALTH) SUB-COMMITTEE

Councillor J. H. Hardy

"      J. A. Irvine Edwards

"      M. F. Pleydell-Bouverie

"      J. W. Todd

(2)    DORKING AND DISTRICT TUBERCULOSIS CARE COMMITTEE

Councillor J. W. Todd

DORKING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

Cyrus Eve, M.B., B.S., (Lond.), M.R.C.S., (Eng.), L.R.C.P., (Lond.), D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

+ D. Allan

M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

+ A. E. Greensmith  
δ+ K. J. Hadler

M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.  
M.A.P.H.I.

Medical Officer of Health's Clerical Staff

Senior Clerk:  
Clerk/Secretary:  
Clerk/Telephonist:  
Junior Clerk:

Position vacant  
Miss E. E. Nelan  
Mrs. M. E. Joseph  
Miss M. Chalker  
(resigned 31.8.56)  
Miss M. Richardson  
(appointed 17.9.56)

Chief Public Health Inspector's Clerk

Mrs. E. Bloxham

Rodent Operator

G. Anscomb

(The Medical Officer of Health and his Clerical Staff act in a similar capacity for the Borough of Epsom and Ewell, the Urban District of Leatherhead and the Rural District of Dorking and Horley).

+ Holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

δ+ Holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate in Sanitary Science, the Diploma of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene and the Smoke Inspectors Certificate.



## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR

THE YEAR 1956

1.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	9,511
Population (Census 1951)	...	...	...	...	20,252
Population (Estimated mid-year 1956)			...	...	20,460
Density (persons per acre)	...	...	...	...	2.15
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1956					6,013
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1956		...	...	...	£355,505
Product of penny rate	...	...	...	...	£1,420

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEARLive Births

	Total	Male	Female	
Total	271	138	133	Birth rate per
Legitimate	264	132	132	1,000 population 13.2
Illegitimate	7	6	1	Standardised birth rate 14.3

Still Births

Total	9	4	5	Rate per 1,000 live and still births 32.1
Legitimate	8	4	4	
Illegitimate	1	-	1	Rate per 1,000 population 0.4

Deaths

Total	281	137	144	Crude death rate 13.7
				Standardised death rate 11.8

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age

Total	10	8	2	Mortality rate per 1,000 live births 36.9
Legitimate	7	6	1	
Illegitimate	3	2	1	

Deaths of infants under 1 month of age

Total	5	3	2	Mortality rate per 1,000 live births 18.5
Legitimate	4	3	1	
Illegitimate	1	-	1	

Maternal Mortality

Maternal causes (excluding abortion)	1	Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live & still births 3.6
Due to abortion	-	

Table I shows birth and death rates, and case rates for infectious diseases, with comparison with the figures for 1955.

Table II gives a comparison of birth, death and infant mortality rates for the district since 1931, with the figures for England and Wales for the same period.



## BIRTHS

Live births numbered 271 of which 138 were males and 133 females, representing a birth-rate of 13.2 per 1,000 of the population, compared with the rate of 15.7 for England and Wales. A comparability factor 1.08 has been supplied by the Registrar-General, allowing for the differing age and sex distribution of the population in different areas, for use when comparing the local rate with those of other districts. When applied, a standardised rate of 14.3 is obtained. The rate is considerably higher than in 1955 which was below the average.

### Illegitimate Births

There were 7 illegitimate births assigned to the Urban District in the figures supplied by the Registrar-General, representing 2.0% of all births. Two of the mothers concerned were residents of the Urban District. Five were temporarily resident at a hostel, and having no other address at the time of registration, the births were assigned to this district. The corresponding rate for England and Wales is over 4%.

## DEATHS

The deaths assigned to the district numbered 281, representing a crude death-rate of 13.7 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The total included 137 males and 144 females.

A comparability factor (0.86) has been provided by the Registrar-General which may be applied to the crude death-rate for use in comparing the local death-rate with those of other areas. The factor makes allowance for the differing age and sex distributions of local populations. Application of the factor to the local rate reduces it from 13.7 to 11.8. The death-rate for England and Wales was 11.7. The average age at death of males was 65.1 years and of females 71.8 years. Approximately 46% of deaths took place in hospital.

The causes of death are classified in Table III.

Diseases of the heart and circulatory system (categories 17-21 in Table III) account for more than half the total deaths from all causes. This is a common feature for a district with a population containing a large number of elderly persons.

Deaths from all forms of cancer and malignant disease (categories 10-14 in Table III) numbered 55, compared with 35 in 1955. The totals involved in this amount are too small to make any deductions as to mortality trends. One consistent feature is the small but steady increase in the number of deaths due to cancer of the lung, particularly in the male sex. Similar increases have been noted in the national figures and are known to have a statistical association with the increasing number of persons who have contracted the habit of heavy cigarette smoking. It is now recognised that this increase is associated with the smoking habit.

## INFANT MORTALITY

There were 10 deaths of infants under 1 year of age, this being an increase of 4 on last year's figures. The infant mortality rate was 36.9 compared with the rate of 23.8 for England and Wales. It is disappointing to note that for the third year in succession the



### Infant Mortality (cont.)

local figures are the higher. Reference to Table II shows that this is a reversal of the position prior to 1954. When analysing the causes of those deaths the originating factor was found to be prematurity in 4 cases, congenital defects in 2 and bronchopneumonia in 3.

Three of the deaths were of illegitimate children, giving the very high illegitimate infant mortality rate of 429 per 1,000 illegitimate live births. The mothers of two of these infants were temporary residents in the district.

### MATERNAL MORTALITY

There was one maternal death caused by toxæmia of pregnancy. The maternal death-rate was 3.6 per 1,000 live and still births, compared with a rate of 0.56 for England and Wales.

It is disturbing to note that there have been 7 maternal deaths in the period 1951 - 1956 in which time there have been 1,597 births. The maternal mortality rate for this series was 4.4: the rate for England and Wales over the same period was 0.71. Three of these deaths were due to abortion or complications of abortion, none of which was induced for therapeutic reasons by medical practitioners. Two deaths were caused by toxæmia of pregnancy, a condition which often can only be detected in its early stages by regular and complete ante-natal examinations, including the frequent testing of urine and the observation of blood pressure. Every pregnant woman should make certain that these are carried out, either by arrangement with her doctor or midwife, or by attendance at the ante-natal clinic of the Surrey County Council. The remaining two deaths in this series were due to complications connected with labour.



## POPULATION

Deaths exceeded births by 10. The Registrar-General's estimate of population for 1956 showed an increase of 40, making a total estimated increase of 208 since the Census of 1951.



GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREALABORATORY FACILITIES

Laboratories available to medical practitioners are situated at local hospitals. Examination of specimens in connection with the diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases can be referred to the Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council located at West Hill House, West Hill, Epsom.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The public ambulance service is under the control of the Surrey County Council, who have given the following information regarding the use of the service:-

The main ambulance station for the area is the Smallfields Section of the Redhill County Hospital (Telephone Smallfields 271) with a substation at Harrowlands, South Terrace, Dorking.

In accidents in the home or elsewhere or in any sudden illness in the streets or public places, any responsible person may call the ambulance to remove the patient (if by telephone use the local Emergency Calling System). Normal maternity cases will be removed if the applicant can give evidence that a maternity bed has been booked. Maternity cases with serious complications, or where the birth is imminent, will not normally be moved without the authority of a doctor or certified midwife, who should travel with the patient in the ambulance.

The removal of other cases of illness or accident will be arranged by the hospital concerned or by the medical practitioner in charge of the patient. For private removals a written request, accompanied by a doctor's certificate, should be made to the County Medical Officer for his consideration. Provided that these requirements are fulfilled, no charge will be made to users.

CARE OF MOTHERS, YOUNG CHILDREN, ETC.

The provision of services relating to the care of mothers and young children, midwifery, health visiting, home nursing, ambulance and domestic help, are the responsibility of the Surrey County Council as local health authority. Day-to-day administration has been delegated to the Southern Division Health Sub-Committee and its officers, with headquarters at Caberfeigh, Hatchlands Road, Redhill, (Telephone No, Redhill 3206).

For convenience of reference a time-table of clinics is set out on page 11.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus and vaccination against smallpox can be obtained from medical practitioners under the terms of the National Health Service Act, or



## Immunisation against Infectious Diseases (cont.)

on application at the County Council Health Centres.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis became available during the year. Because of shortage of material it is restricted to children born in the period 1947-56 whose names were registered for the treatment earlier in the year.

B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis is available for children aged between 13 and 14 years, and for all children who have been in close contact with cases of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Details of the numbers treated in these various procedures will be found in Section 6 of this report.

## FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION

A branch of the Family Planning Association is active in the district. It provides a weekly clinic at the Dorking General Hospital with the consent of the Hospital Management Committee and the Medical Superintendent. The medical staff is appointed by the Association and is assisted by voluntary workers. The work of the Association is concerned with the teaching of contraception to married persons, and also with the investigation of sub-fertility.

Information has been received from the Hon. Secretary of the Association that 124 new cases attended during the year, that the total number of visits paid to the clinic was 474, and that many postal enquiries were received and dealt with.

## HOME HELP SERVICE

This service is administered locally by the Divisional Medical Officer of the Surrey County Council whose offices are situated at Gaberfeigh, Hatchlands Road, Redhill.

## DOMICILIARY NURSING

Domiciliary nursing is carried out by the district nursing staff of the Surrey County Council.

## VENEREAL DISEASES

The Regional Hospital Board is the authority responsible for the administration of matters dealing with the diagnosis and treatment of Venereal Diseases.



LOCATION AND TIME-TABLE OF CLINICS

Ante-natal Clinic	Dorking General Hospital	Fri. 9.30 a.m.
Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics	S.C.C. Clinic, Dene St., Dorking	Mon. & Wed. 2 - 4 p.m.
	Brockham Homes, Brockham (Voluntary)	1st & 3rd Fri. 2 p.m.
	The Reading Room, Westcott	2nd & 4th Mon. 2 p.m.
	The Bracie Hall, Boxhill	2nd & 4th Wed. 2 p.m.
	Village Hall, N. Holmwood	1st & 3rd Thur. 2 p.m.
General School Medical Minor Ailments Clinic	S.C.C. Clinic, Dene St., Dorking	Tues. 9.30 a.m. - 12 noon. Mon. 9.30 a.m.
Dental Clinic	"	By Appointment
Speech Clinic	"	" "
Eye Clinic	"	" "
Chest Clinic	"	Fri. 10 a.m.
Family Planning Association Clinic	Redhill County Hospital	Tues 6-7.30 p.m.
	Dorking General Hospital	Tues 6-7.30 p.m. Except following Bank Holidays
Venereal Diseases Clinics	Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford	Males: Tues. & Fri. 5 - 7 p.m. Females: Mon. 2 - 7 p.m. Thurs. 9.30-11 a.m.
	Redhill County Hospital Earlswood Common	Males: Mon. 5-7 p.m.
	(And at the Out-patient Department of many London Hospitals).	



WATER

Mickleham, Boxhill and Brockham receive water from the supply of the East Surrey Water Company, and the remainder of the area from that of the Dorking Water Company.

The bulk of the water supplied by the East Surrey Water Company is obtained from borings into chalk at Purley, Kenley and Leatherhead. Before distribution it is softened by the addition of lime and dechlorinated after an adequate period of contact. The methods of purification in use are adequate to deal with any possible pollution which might occur.

The Dorking Water Company obtains its water from a series of fifteen wells situated a little to the south of the Pippbrook stream shortly before it reaches the western outskirts of Dorking. The boreholes extend to a depth of 130 feet into the Folkestone beds, from which the water is siphoned to a reservoir at the works. After chlorination it is pumped into covered service reservoirs.

The district is fortunate in the quality and adequacy of its water supplies.

Bacteriological reports on 13 samples of the Dorking Water Company's supply were received, all of which were satisfactory.

The system of weekly sampling in rotation by the various local authorities of the districts served by the East Surrey Water Company has continued. Frequent examinations are also carried out under private arrangements made by the Company.

As will be seen by the following figures, the great majority of houses are provided with a piped water supply delivered internally:

Dwelling houses supplied by wells	3
" " " standpipes	21
" " " piped main supply	6,171
" " " piped private supply	3
" " " other means	3

As in previous years, additional standpipes on main supplies have been installed at camp sites where caravans and temporary structures are being permanently occupied or are used for holiday purposes.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The weekly collection of house refuse continued throughout the year.

Disposal, as before, was by controlled tipping, with the customary precaution - a very essential one in the summer months - of treating the working face daily to prevent infestation of flies or other insects. In addition, regular routine inspections were made by the Council's Rodent Operator, who dealt with the few minor infestations which were found.

The weight of house refuse from the urban area deposited at the tip amounted to 5,770 tons 4 cwt. Trade refuse was 170 tons 12 cwt. 1 qtr. The arrangements for trade refuse are as previously



### Public Cleansing (cont.)

reported - viz - that traders can deposit their refuse on payment of a small charge, except in the case of putrescible matter from food premises, which is accepted free in the interests of public health to prevent accumulations which might give rise to flies or other pests on the trade premises concerned. On arrival at the tip, such refuse is deposited at the foot of the "working face" and them covered. No collection of trade refuse is made by the Council.

Refuse accepted from adjacent parts of the Dorking and Horley Rural District totalled 801 tons 12 cwts., an appropriate charge being made.

Owing to the large amount of paper collected in the refuse, thereby increasing the bulk, the Committee considered the desirability of recommending the Council to encourage the former practice of individual householders burning their own house refuse.

Upon further reconsideration of the matter in view of the effect of aerial pollution as an aggravating factor in many respiratory illnesses, and also having regard to the statutory powers conferred on local authorities by the Clean Air Act, 1956, to deal with some of the problems involved, it was decided that no action should be taken by the Council which would encourage aerial pollution, and the suggestion of a publicity campaign for the burning of refuse by householders was abandoned.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Contract No. 1 of Phase I of the Main Drainage Scheme was completed during the year - i.e. the relaying of the sewer from Holmesthorpe Road to the old Holmwood Sewage Works, and the provision of a grit tank and storm overflow at the latter.

The Committee considered Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular Nos. 10/56 and 11/56 regarding the need to restrict capital expenditure by Local Authorities. Circular 11/56 stated that, except where risk to health safety or other vital interests rendered it impracticable, the Minister would feel obliged to curtail drastically loan sanctions or grants for new projects or expansions for (inter alia) sewerage and sewage disposal.

The Committee were satisfied that it was essential that there should be no further delay in the replacement of worn-out plant, the sludge rising main and associated work at the Pixham Lane Outfall works, but agreed, reluctantly, to a temporary standstill on the remainder of Phase I - the laying of the intercepting sewer from Brockham to Castle Gardens, the new Pumping Station at Castle Gardens, and the construction of the new rising main to Pixham Lane Outfall Works. The Council accepted this view and decided to press for Ministry approval of the second Contract. This was received and the work put in hand.

Two summer storms, with torrential rain, resulted in more surcharging of the older sewers in the town area, and caused some flooding of basements and gardens by sewage.

All the complaints were investigated, and the Surveyor reported to the Committee and received approval for the steps he proposed to take to deal with these matters.



### CAMP SITES AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Sites in respect of which licences were issued by the Local Authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, authorising their use for moveable dwellings, numbered 12.

In addition, licences to erect or station and use a moveable dwelling were issued in respect of 16 such dwellings, situated on pieces of land other than licensed sites.

There are approximately 195 caravans permanently occupied, the majority of which are in the camp sites on Box Hill Road.

### SHOPS ACT, 1950

During the year, 128 inspections of shops were made for the purpose of the Act. The conditions found and action taken are shown in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report, which also contains details of the record of all shops in the district.

### SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

Three privately owned open air swimming pools were open to the public during the summer months. The Public Health Inspectors made 48 visits.

All three pools are fitted with automatic chlorinating plants.

In all, 47 samples were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination.

The summary of results is as follows:-

<u>Taken</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Chlorination Inadequate</u>
47	44	3

None of the samples reported as showing inadequate chlorination was of a serious nature. No faecal coli were present, and it appeared that the condition had usually arisen after strong winds had blown a considerable amount of dust and debris into the pools at a time when, owing to bad weather, and consequent infrequent use by bathers, plants had not been operated as they would have been under normal weather conditions.

### SMOKE ABATEMENT

No action was necessary during the year.

### RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

The number of premises registered under the above Act is two, no fresh applications having been received during the year.



## SCHOOLS

Action in connection with schools was mainly treatment for the prevention of flies and other insect and rodent pests in school canteens and kitchens, in accordance with arrangements made between the Chief Public Health Inspector and the Surrey County Council Education Department. In addition, visits were made in connection with Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, and deficiencies and contraventions were notified to the Education Authority.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

The Council's Rodent Operator also deals with bed-bugs and other insect pests, under the supervision of the Chief Public Health Inspector, who gives full details of the year's work.

## MORTUARY FACILITIES

The arrangement continued with the Leatherhead Urban District Council for the joint use of that Council's mortuary. Twenty-six bodies were removed during the course of the year from the Dorking Urban District. The use of the mortuary at the Dorking District Hospital is confined to the requirements of the hospitals.

## INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

- (1) Inspections for purposes of Provisions as to health, including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspec- tions (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	26	7	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	100	108	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	7	7	-	-
TOTAL	133	122	-	-



Inspection of Factories (cont.)

(2) Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found					Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were insti- tuted
	Found died	Reme- died	Referred to H.M.	by H.M. Inspec- tor	Inspec- tor	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	2	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Convenience (S.7)	1	1	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	9	10	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

(3) The factories in the register are classified as follows:-

	Power	Non-Power
Aerated Water	1	-
Agricultural Engineers	1	-
Bacon Curing, Coffee Grinding, etc.	1	-
Bakehouses	7	1
Book Binding	1	-
Boot Repairs	10	2
Bottle Top Manufacturer	1	-
Brickmaking	1	-
Builders, Engineering and Joinery	7	1
Cable Making	1	-
Concrete Paving Stones	1	-
Cabinet Repairs	-	1
Cleaning and Pressing	2	-
Coach Building	2	-
Cooker and Meter Repairs	1	-
Crumpets	1	-
Dispensing Optician	1	1
Electrical Contractors	1	-
Electricity Generating Station	1	-
Engineering (General)	12	-
Firewood Merchants	1	-
Fish Curing	-	1
Fish Food Manufacturers	-	1
Fleur Mills	1	-
Furniture Repairers	1	-



### Inspection of Factories (cont.)

	<u>Power</u>	<u>Non-Power</u>
Gas Works	1	-
Laundries	1	-
Leaded Windows	-	1
Monumental Masons	-	1
Motor Vehicle Repairs	14	2
Newspaper Fudging	2	-
Plumbing	-	1
Printing	3	-
Provendor Mills	2	-
Radio Engineers	3	2
Sausage Manufacturers	10	7
Sheet Metal	1	-
Silk Screen Printing	2	-
Tailoring	2	3
Tent Making	1	-
Ticket Printing	1	-
Timber and Fencing	1	-
Toolmaking	1	-
Upholsterers, etc.	3	1
Watch Repairs	1	-
Wire Processing	2	-

The names and addresses of four out-workers in the wearing apparel trade were notified, two from other authorities, two from a local firm.

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

Full details of premises visited, defects or nuisance discovered and the action taken under the appropriate legal provisions will be found in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, with the results obtained.



Thirty-one houses were erected by the local authority during the year, in the development of the second phase of Goodwyns Estate. The Council's estates now comprise 927 houses and flats, and four shops with flats over.

Forty-three houses were built by private enterprise, and three units provided by the conversion of property.

At the end of the year 19 families were still housed in six premises requisitioned and converted by the Council. The remainder of the families living in ex-army huts were re-housed during the year.



INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODMILK

The Chief Public Health Inspector continued to act as the agent of the County Medical Officer for the purpose of inspection, supervision and sampling at the pasteurising plant which is established in the district.

In addition, routine sampling was carried out of pasteurised milk which is available from four sources outside the Urban District.

Full details of this aspect of the Department's work are given later by the Chief Public Health Inspector.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

The Surrey County Council continued to administer the sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 dealing with the adulteration of food. I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the information that a total of 77 samples for analysis were taken in this district. These included 57 samples of milk the remainder consisting of miscellaneous articles of foodstuffs and drugs. Two samples of milk and one each of a soft drink, of sugar and of confectionary did not comply with requirements. The information was also given that within the area of the County in which the County Council acts as Food and Drugs authority a total of 968 samples were taken for analysis, including 718 of milk. Forty-two samples were found to be below standard, 21 of these being of milk. Successful legal proceedings were taken against a farmer for selling Channel Islands milk deficient in milk fat.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS, ICE-CREAM AND FOOD HYGIENE

The results of inspections of food premises, action taken and progress achieved, are dealt with in the Chief Public Health Inspector's Report.



Table I shows the incidence and death rates of infectious diseases. Incidence rates are estimated per 1,000 population with the exception of the rate for puerperal pyrexia, which is based on 1,000 live and still births. Figures for 1955 are reproduced for purposes of comparison.

Table IV shows the number of cases of infectious diseases (except tuberculosis) notified during 1956, classified according to age and sex. Table VI gives similar details for tuberculosis.

### SMALLPOX

No case of smallpox was notified during the year.

#### Vaccination against Smallpox

During the year notifications were received from medical practitioners of 164 primary vaccinations, and 62 re-vaccinations which had been performed by them. Of the primary vaccinations 138 related to children under the age of one year, equivalent to 51% of the number of births registered in the district during the year. This compares with a recent estimated vaccination rate of 34% for England and Wales.

### SCARLET FEVER

Three cases of scarlet fever were notified during the year, There was no mortality from the disease which continued to be of a mild type.

### DIPHTHERIA

For the ninth year in succession no case of diphtheria was notified in the district.

Reference to Table V indicates the decline which has taken place in the incidence of this disease.

#### Immunisation against Diphtheria

Treatment can be obtained from general practitioners under the terms of the National Health Service Act, or from clinics arranged by the local health authority, those being held at regular intervals at all Infant Welfare Centres serving the district, of which details are set out on page 11. These arrangements are intended primarily for infants and others under school age. Clinics in schools have been organised by the Divisional School Medical Officer for pupils requiring treatment, usually the reinforcing course. The aim is for every child to receive the primary treatment within its first year of life, and to be given reinforcing treatments at intervals of 3 to 4 years up to the end of school life. It is not claimed that absolute immunity will be attained for every child, but there is clear evidence that the risk of an untreated child contracting diphtheria is four times as great as that of an immunised child, and that the risk of



### Immunisation against Diphtheria (cont.)

death is nearly thirty times as great.

If it is desired preventive treatment is now available against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus in a single course of injections. A primary course of 3 injections given at 4 - 6 months, followed by single booster doses at 2 years and 5 years of age and then at intervals during school life, give protection against these diseases.

Notifications were received from medical practitioners and clinics that 258 children received primary treatment and 697 received reinforcing doses. The following figures show how the facilities for treatment have been used.

	<u>Primary Treatment</u>	<u>Reinforcing Doses</u>
Treated at Clinics and Schools	126	650
Treated by General Practitioners	<u>132</u>	<u>47</u>
	258	697
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>

In 130 infants the treatment was completed before reaching the age of one year, representing 48% of the number of births registered during the year.

At the end of the year it was estimated that 56% of children under the age of 15 years had been treated and were still in an effective state of immunity. The figure for 1955 was also 56%.

### WHOOPING COUGH

Thirty-five cases of whooping cough were notified compared with 7 in the previous year. There were no deaths from the disease.

### Immunisation against Whooping Cough

Notifications were received from medical practitioners and clinics that 199 children had received treatment. In 195 children the primary treatment was combined with immunisation against diphtheria and in 83 of these immunisation against tetanus was also included.

### MEASLES

Seven cases of measles were notified during the year, compared with 152 in 1955. The great variation in these totals is in accord with the biennial nature which epidemics of measles assume. No death from the disease was recorded.

### ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS

Three notifications of poliomyelitis were received during the year. Even so the district must be considered lucky in this



## Acute Poliomyelitis (cont.)

respect, for outbreaks of considerable size were reported from several areas in Surrey. In two cases the illness was relatively slight, but in the third severe crippling resulted.

The production of an effective vaccine against poliomyelitis is now proceeding, though not yet in sufficient quantities to allow more than a small proportion of the child population to be treated. The number treated was 77 out of a total of 677 for whom consents had been received.

## PUERPERAL PYREXIA

Six cases were notified, giving an incidence rate of 21.4 per 1,000 live and still births compared with a rate of 90.1 in 1955. All the notifications were received from the maternity unit of the Dorking District Hospital, 4 of them relating to patients who were admitted for their confinement from addresses outside the Dorking Urban District.

## TUBERCULOSIS

Eight notifications of new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were received from medical practitioners. There were no notifications in respect of non-pulmonary tuberculosis. These concerned residents of the district in which the disease was recognised for the first time. In Table VI they are classified by sex and age.

Other names added to the register were those of 7 persons who came to live in the district, having previously been notified in other areas.

### Registration of Notified Persons

During the year the names of the 23 persons mentioned in the previous paragraphs were added to the tuberculosis register, and 10 were removed. Details of these alterations were as follows:-

#### ADDITIONS TO REGISTER

Primary notifications relating to persons already residing in the district

8

Transfer of persons notified in other areas, now residing in this district

7

15

#### REMOVALS FROM REGISTER

By removals to other districts

11

By recovery

19

By death

3

—

33

—

At the end of the year the number of names on the register was as follows: compared with the previous year's figures.

#### 1956

#### 1955

##### Respiratory Non-Respiratory

##### Respiratory Non-Respiratory

Male 62  
Female 35

3  
12

65  
42

9  
14

97

15

107

23



## Tuberculosis (cont.)

### Deaths

Three deaths from tuberculosis were assigned to the district, giving a death-rate of 0.15. The death-rate for England and Wales from tuberculosis was 0.12.

Table VII illustrates the trend which the mortality figures for tuberculosis have assumed in recent years.

### B. C. G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

This treatment is available, through the Chest Physician, to contacts in the family of tuberculosis persons, if preliminary testing shows that they have not already been infected. It has also been offered to children aged between 13 and 14 years at both maintained and independent schools.

The treatment in schools is carried out by the staff of the Divisional Medical Officer who has provided figures in relation to the work done in local schools in 1956

Number of children in age group	277
Number consenting to treatment	150
Percentage consenting to treatment	54.1%
Number Mantoux tested	129
Number of negative reactors	109
Percentage giving negative reaction	84.5%
Number vaccinated	109
Percentage of negative reactors vaccinated	100%
Number of vaccinated children re-tested	156
Number of these giving positive reaction	130
Percentage giving positive reaction	83.3%

The percentage acceptance of testing and vaccination and of negative reactors successfully vaccinated are satisfactory and compare favourably with the corresponding findings in other districts.

### Mass Radiography

A survey was made during the year by the Mass Radiography Service in the Boxhill and Headley areas. The number of persons who attended for examination was 222, of whom 124 were from Boxhill and 98 from Headley. The following details of the investigation have been supplied by the Medical Director of the Unit.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number examined	85	137	222
Pulmonary tuberculosis, active	-	-	-
Pulmonary tuberculosis, inactive	2	6	8
Non-tuberculous abnormalities	2	-	2



TABLE I. COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND MATERNAL MORTALITY RATES AND INCIDENCE RATES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR THE YEARS 1955 - 1956.

	1955	1956
<u>Rates per 1,000 Population</u>		
<u>BIRTHS</u>		
Live Births (Standardised)	10.8	14.3
Still Births	0.1	0.4
<u>DEATHS</u>		
All Causes (Standardised)	9.2	11.8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Tuberculosis	-	0.15
Influenza	0.05	-
Smallpox	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Pneumonia	0.39	-
Measles	-	-
<u>NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected)</u>		
Typhoid Fever	-	0.05
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	0.15
Whooping Cough	0.34	1.71
Diphtheria	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-
Smallpox	-	-
Measles	7.44	0.34
Pneumonia	0.05	-
Poliomyelitis      Paralytic	0.24	0.15
Non-Paralytic	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	0.20
Dysentery	-	0.93
Tuberculosis	0.59	0.44
<u>Rates per 1,000 Live Births</u>		
<u>INFANT MORTALITY</u>		
Under 1 year of age	27.3	36.9
Under 4 weeks of age	18.2	18.5
<u>Rates per 1,000 Total (Live &amp; Still) Births</u>		
Still Births	9.0	32.1
Puerperal Pyrexia (Notification of)	90.1	21.4
Maternal Mortality	-	3.6



TABLE II

## COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES 1931 - 1956

DECENNIAL AVERAGES 1931 - 1950. ANNUAL 1951 - 1956

Year	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	Death Rate per 1,000 Population		Death Rate of children under 1 year of age, per 1,000 Live Births	
		England and Wales	Dorking Urban District	England and Wales	Dorking Urban District
1931-1940	14.9	14.4	12.2	12.2	58
1941-1950	16.9	16.8	12.3	12.7	43
1951	15.5	13.6 (13.6) +	12.5	12.8 (10.8) +	29.7
1952	15.3	14.1 (14.1)	11.3	12.4 (10.4)	27.6
1953	15.5	12.6 (13.6)	11.4	13.4 (11.1)	26.8
1954	15.2	13.5 (14.6)	11.3	11.2 (9.3)	25.5
1955	15.0	10.8 (11.6)	11.7	11.1 (9.2)	24.9
1956	15.7	13.2 (14.3)	11.7	13.7 (11.8)	23.8
					31.0
					29.2 (9) ++
					25.6 (7)
					21.2 (6)
					7.9 (2)
					36.4 (10)
					27.3 (6)
					36.9 (10)

(25)

†: Bracketed figures represent standardised rates  
++: Bracketed figures represent number of deaths



TABLE III  
CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE DORKING URBAN DISTRICT

	M	F	Total
1. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	2	1	3
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	1	1
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningoceleal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Pelonyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic disease	1	-	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	5	8
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	8	1	8
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	15	15
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	3	3
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	12	9	21
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	3	5
16. Diabetes	-	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	17	31	48
18. Coronary disease, angina	16	10	26
19. Hypertension with heart disease	4	3	7
20. Other heart disease	24	30	54
21. Other circulatory disease	9	6	15
22. Influenza	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	6	3	9
24. Bronchitis	8	1	9
25. Other disease of respiratory system	2	1	3
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	-	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	3	-	3
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	-	1	1
31. Congenital malformations	1	1	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined disease	9	12	21
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
34. All other accidents	5	1	6
35. Suicide	1	3	4
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	137	144	281



NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES BY AGE AND SEX.

(FOR TUBERCULOSIS SEE TABLE VI)



TABLE V

## INCIDENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN THE DORKING URBAN DISTRICT 1934 - 1956

	Number of cases notified	Incidence Rate per 1,000 Population	Mortality Rate per 1,000 Population
1934 - 1938	30	0.36	0.048
1939 - 1943	12	0.12	0.022
1944 - 1948	2	0.02	-
1949 - 1953	-	-	-
1954	-	-	-
1955	-	-	-
1956	-	-	-



TABLE VI

NOTIFICATION OF, AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS BY AGE AND SEX

Primary notifications relating to persons resident in the Dorking Urban District

Secondary notifications of persons already notified in other areas now resident in Dorking Urban District

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
<u>Deaths</u>				
Secondary notifications of persons already notified in other areas now resident in Dorking Urban District				
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary

Primary notifications relating to persons resident in the Dorking Urban District		Secondary notifications of persons already notified in other areas now resident in Dorking Urban District		Deaths					
				Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year									
1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	-	24	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
25	-	34	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
35	-	44	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
45	-	54	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
55	-	64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 years & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	6	2	-	-	-	3	3	-	-
						3	3	2	1



TABLE VII

TUBERCULOSIS INCIDENCE AND MORTALITY 1934-1956

## QUINTENNAL AVERAGES 1934-1953

YEAR	Number of New Notifications	Notification Rate per 1,000 Population	Deaths Total	Death Rate per
				1,000 Population
1934 - 1938	12	0.73	6	0.41
1939 - 1943	16	0.83	6	0.33
1944 - 1948	16	0.85	8	0.43
1949 - 1953	15	0.77	5	0.27
1954	12	0.59	2	0.10
1955	12	0.59	-	-
1956	8	0.44	3	0.15



URBAN DISTRICT OF DORKING

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1956

Public Health Inspectors' Office,  
Council Offices,  
Pippbrook,  
Dorking.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Dorking Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady, and Gentlemen,

I submit herewith my Annual Report on the work of your Public Health Inspectors during the year 1956. The change of title of this section of your staff occurred on the 2nd August, 1956, when the Sanitary Inspectors (Change of Designation) Act, 1956, came into operation. There was, however, no change of duties.

The year was one of increased activity in slum clearance and food hygiene. In the case of slum clearance, detailed inspections and reports on the 79 houses in the first two areas included in the proposals made under Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, followed by an inspection by the Public Health Committee and their subsequent recommendation to the Council, resulted in the declaration of the Dorking No.1 (Cotmandene etc.) and Dorking No.2 (Church Gardens etc.) Clearance Areas. The work done as a result of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 is recorded in the appropriate section of this report.

The usual routine duties of the Department were carried out and details of action taken and the results thereof were reported to the meetings of the Public Health Committee. In addition, the inspection of the accommodation of housing applicants to report on their housing need continued to be dealt with by the Inspectors.

Time does not permit of a long and detailed account of all the various activities, but the summarised figures given under the headings which follow indicate to some extent the service rendered to the public during the year under review.

As in previous years, my work was helped by the co-operation and support accorded to me by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, Dr. Ive, and all my colleagues, and for this I wish to express my thanks.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Lady, and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

D. ALLAN.

Chief Public Health Inspector.



## INSPECTIONS AND REINSPECTIONS

The number of visits and inspections carried out during the year is summarised as follows:-

### General Sanitation -

Water Supply	44
Drainage	559
Stables and Piggeries	6
Fried Fish Shops	1
Hotels, Public Houses and Licensed Premises	13
Tents, Vans and Sheds	533
Factories with mechanical power	108
Factories without mechanical power	7
Workplaces	7
Outworkers	2
Bakehouses	21
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	2
Dustbins	79
Refuse Accumulations	8
Rats and Mice (Visits by Rodent Operator)	5453
Pet Animals Act, 1951	1
Schools	8
Shops	128
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	642
Camp Sites	60
Wasps' Nests	152
Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952	3
Swimming Pools	48
Unsuccessful Visits	682

### Housing -

#### Under Public Health Acts:

No. of houses inspected	118
No. of re-inspections	334

#### Under Housing Acts:

No. of houses inspected	92
No. of re-inspections	252

#### Overcrowding:

No. of houses inspected	9
-------------------------	---

#### Verminous Premises:

No. of houses inspected	3
No. of re-inspections	5

#### Miscellaneous Housing Visits

430

#### Improvement Grant Visits

46

### Infectious Diseases -

Inquiries in cases of infectious diseases	20
Visits re. disinfection	9
Miscellaneous infectious disease visits	58

### Meat and Food Inspection -

#### Inspection of Meat:

Visits to Slaughterhouses	660
Visits to Shops and Stalls	1
Visits to Other Premises	4

#### Visits to:

Butchers	39
Fishmongers and Poulterers	20
Grocers	153
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	15
Farms	2
Dairies and Milkshops	68



Meat and Food Inspection - continued -

Visits to:

Ice-cream Premises	26
Food Preparing Premises	155
Market Stalls	18
Restaurants	33
Street Vendors and Hawkers' Carts	53
Canteens	14

Visits in Connection with Sampling -

Milk - Bacteriological	131
Water - Bacteriological	51
Rinse water - Bacteriological	1
Miscellaneous Food Visits	22
Food Poisoning Enquiries	7
	<hr/>
	11,416
	<hr/>

NOTICES ISSUED AND ACTION TAKEN

The Notices served and the results of such action are given in their respective categories, but the total summary (excluding action taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 and the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955) is as follows:-

Preliminary -

Outstanding on 1st January, 1956	65
Issued during the year	98
Complied with during the year	95
Statutory Action necessary	20
Outstanding on 31st December, 1956	48

Statutory -

Outstanding on 1st January, 1956	16
Issued during the year	24
Complied with during the year	26
Cancelled during the year	1
Action in Default taken	2
Outstanding on 31st December, 1956	11

COMPLAINTS

Four hundred and five complaints were received from the public as follows:-

Dampness, defective roofs, etc.	45
Defective floors and woodwork, etc.	8
Other defects - houses	37
Flooded cellars and basements	6
Drainage of houses	19
Drainage of other premises	6
Rats and Mice	115
Unsound food	37
Defective dustbins	13
Nuisance from smell	20
Ants	4
Beetles	3
Bugs	1
Mosquitoes	1
Woodworm	3
Wasps' nests	59
Miscellaneous insect pests	8
Miscellaneous	20
	<hr/>
	405
	<hr/>



DEFECTS FOUND AND REMEDIED, NUISANCES ABATED ETC.

The inspection of dwelling houses, etc., and consequent action resulted in the following conditions being found and remedied.

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
<u>Drainage -</u>		
Cesspools - defective	1	1
Drains - defective	20	23
Drains - require relaying	1	1
Gullies - defective	4	7
<u>Inspection Chambers -</u>		
Defective	-	1
New required	2	1
Frames and covers defective	1	3
<u>Pipes -</u>		
Rainwater pipes - defective	2	5
Rainwater pipes - new required	1	1
Soil/vent. pipes - defective	1	1
Waste-pipes - defective	4	3
Waste-pipes - new required	7	5
<u>Sewers -</u>		
Public sewers - choked or defective	3	3
<u>Sinks -</u>		
New required	2	2
<u>Water Closets -</u>		
Chamber (walls, roof etc.) defective	1	1
Flushing cistern - defective	4	5
Pans - defective or dirty	1	-
Pans - new required	5	5
Seats - defective (or renewal)	7	8
<u>Water Supply -</u>		
Cisterns	1	-
Supply pipes	1	2
<u>Yards and Passages -</u>		
Defective paving	-	1
Require paving and / or drainage	-	1
<u>General Defects -</u>		
Accumulations	1	1
Cellars flooded	3	3
Chimney stacks defective	11	6
Chimney pots defective	3	3
Rooms requiring decoration	2	1
Defective doors	2	4
" door frames	1	-
" dustbins	20	36
" eavessgutters	20	19
" fireplaces and hearths	6	5
" floors	10	9
Filthy and unwholesome houses	3	3
Handrail to stairs defective	2	-
Kitchen ranges and ovens defective	4	2
Internal walls - plastering required	20	13
Ceilings requiring plastering	6	4
Roofs - defective	19	19
Roofs - require stripping and reroofing	7	7
Skirtings defective	3	3
Stair treads and risers defective	4	1
Steps (external) defective	3	-
Ventilation inadequate	1	-
Walls - damp	27	16
Walls - brickwork defective	2	1
Walls - external boarding defective	1	-
Walls - external rendering defective	2	2
Windows - defective	2	2
Window frames defective	11	5
Window cills defective	5	5
Window sashcords defective	10	6
Window glazing putty defective	3	3
Other Nuisances	1	3



NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH DURING THE YEAR  
AND NOTICES OUTSTANDING AT 31st DECEMBER, 1956

(1) Housing Act, 1936 -

No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding at 1st January, 1956	2
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding at 1st January, 1956	-
No. of Preliminary Notices served	5
No. of Preliminary Notices complied with	2
No. of Statutory Notices served	-
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	-
No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1956	5
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1956	-

(2) Public Health Act, 1936 -

	Houses	Other Premises	Dust- bins
No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding at 1st January, 1956	34	5	13
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding at 1st January, 1956	11	-	5
No. of Preliminary Notices served	64	9	9
No. of Preliminary Notices complied with	55	9	14
Statutory Action necessary	13	-	7
No. of Statutory Notices served	17	-	7
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	17	-	9
Action in Default	-	-	2
No. of Preliminary Notices cancelled	-	-	-
No. of Statutory Notices cancelled	1	-	-
No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1956	30	5	1
No. of Statutory Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1956	10	-	1

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

(a) Six hundred and sixty visits were made to the three licensed slaughterhouses in the district, for the purposes of meat inspection, and the result of that inspection is summarised in Tables "A", "B" and "C".

The five cases of *Cysticercus bovis* which were found were reported to the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, together with the names and addresses of the farmers entering the animals for sale.



MEAT INSPECTION

TABLE "A".

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Swine	TOTAL
Number killed	491	350	419	1309	2590	5159
Number inspected	491	350	419	1309	2590	5159
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI:</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	-	2	3	-	3	8
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	188	125	3	31	137	484
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. and Cysticerci.	38.29	36.29	1.43	2.37	5.41	
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	1	4	-	-	2	7
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	11	37	-	-	56	104
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	2.44	11.71	-	-	2.24	
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS:</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	-	-	-	-	5
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	5	-	-	-	-	5
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Total weight of carcases and offals condemned was -  
5 tons. 1 cwt. 0 qutrs. 22 lbs.



TABLE "B".

## MEAT INSPECTION - REASONS FOR CONDEMNATION

Description	Number Slaughtered	Tuber- culosis	Generalised Localseated	Abscesses	Actinomycosis and Actino- bacilloses	Bruising and Oedema	C. bovis	Other Cysts and Parasitic Infections	Diseases of the Liver	Injuries	Swine Erysipelas	Pericarditis	Peritonitis and Pleurisy	Miscellaneous	TOTAL	
BOVINES (excluding calves)	841															
Whole carcasses and offal		5	-	20	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	3	7	37	7
Part carcasses			-	18	2	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37	37
Heads and tongues			-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7
Hearts			-	6	1	5	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	298	298
Lungs			-	9	28	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	10
Livers and part livers			-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	9
Mesentery and Intestines			-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Kidneys			-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
CALVES	419															
Whole carcasses and offal			-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	27
Part carcasses			-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5
Heads and tongues			-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7
Livers and part livers			-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	31
SHEEP	1309															
Lungs			-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	42
Livers and part livers			-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	6
PIGS	2590															
Whole carcasses and offal		2	-	1	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	40	40
Part carcasses			-	56	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5
Heads and tongues			-	2	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	58	58
Hearts			-	3	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	12
Lungs			-	2	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	12
Livers and part livers			-	58	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	12
Mesentery and Intestines			-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	12
Kidneys			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	31
<b>TOTAL:-</b>	<b>5159</b>	<b>7157</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>735</b>		



TABLE "C".

WEIGHTS OF CARCASSES AND ORGANS FOUND TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN FOOD

	Whole Carcase and Offal	Part Carcase	Head and Tongue	Heart	Lungs	Liver	Mesentery	Kidneys	TOTALS
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
<u>(a) TUBERCULOSIS:</u>									
Bovines	2310	468	450	-	373	132	99	5	3837
Pigs	447	-	922	2	10	25	30	-	1436
<u>(b) OTHER DISEASES:</u>									
Bovines	948	79	447	25	258	3442	92	35	5326
Pigs	231	34½	31	14½	75	236½	45	15½	683
Sheep	-	-	-	-	1	51	-	-	52
<u>(c) TOTAL WEIGHTS - ALL DISEASES:</u>									
Bovines	3258	547	897	25	631	3574	191	40	9163
Pigs	678	34½	953	16½	85	261½	75	15½	2119
Sheep	-	-	-	-	1	51	-	-	52
<u>TOTALS:-</u>	<u>3936</u>	<u>581½</u>	<u>1850</u>	<u>41½</u>	<u>717</u>	<u>3886½</u>	<u>266</u>	<u>55½</u>	<u>11334</u>



(b) Meat (inspected in shops) and Other Foods -

Examination revealed that the following foodstuffs were unfit for human consumption, and were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed.

	Tins	Bottles and Jars	Weight			
			Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Beef: English	-	-	-	2	7	-
Pork: English	-	-	-	-	14	-
Offal: English	-	-	-	2	10	-
Offal: Imported	-	-	1	-	10	13
Fish	49	-	2	1	15	12
Bacon and Ham	-	-	3	1	15	-
Cheese	-	-	-	-	-	10
Tinned Hams	-	-	-	1	20	12
Canned Meat	-	-	6	1	26	12
Milk	222	-	-	-	-	-
Vegetables	884	-	-	-	-	-
Fruit	2076	-	-	-	-	-
Soup	315	-	-	-	-	-
Preserves	1	10	-	-	-	-
Savouries	-	5	-	-	-	-
Pickles & Sauces	3	62	-	-	-	-
Cream	10	9	-	-	-	-
Cereals	5	-	-	-	-	-
Fruit Juice	27	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL:-</b>	<b>3592</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>11</b>

(c) Milk -

(i) Samples:

During the year 156 samples of milk retailed in the Urban District were taken by the Public Health Inspectors, and the summary of results is given below:-

Pasteurised Milk

No. of samples	Methylene Blue Reductase Test		Phosphatase Test	
	Satisfactory:	Unsatisfactory:	Satis:	Unsatis:
130	129	1	129	1



(c)(i) Samples - continued -

Investigation of the unsatisfactory result on a phosphatase test revealed that it had been due to faulty plant operation.

During sterilising of the Pasteurising Plant one of the staff had jammed the Divertor valve into the "forward flow" position and had not released it until after the start of the day's milk run, so for a minute or two inadequately heated milk which should have been diverted back to the start of the process went through to the bottling machine.

Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk

No. of samples	Methylene Blue Reductase Test		Phosphatase Test	
	Satisfactory:	Unsatisfactory:	Satis:	Unsatis:
26	26	-	26	-

(ii) Milk sold under Special Designations:

The following licences for the sale of designated milks, granted by the Dorking Urban District Council, were in operation during the year:-

(a) Milk (Special Designation)(Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1954

Dealer's licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk	6
Supplementary licence to sell "Tuberculin Tested" milk	3

(b) Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1953

Dealer's licence to sell "Pasteurised" milk	5
Dealer's licence to sell "Sterilised" milk	7
Supplementary licence to sell "Pasteurised" milk	3
Supplementary licence to sell "Sterilised" milk	2

(d) Cream -

As a result of communications from the Metropolitan Borough of Chelsea regarding the results of bacteriological examination of cream supplied to a dairy in that district by a dairy in this district, three samples were taken at the latter firm's premises.

The laboratory results in each case were satisfactory.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933 to 1954

Ten licences were issued during the year to slaughtermen, each for the slaughter of cattle, sheep, and pigs, using a pistol of the "captive bolt" type.



FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 - Sections 13 to 21

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

1. Hygiene in connection with the sale, etc., of food to the Public:

The above legislation, apart from certain parts of the Regulations, came into operation on the 1st January, 1956, replacing and strengthening the previous duties and powers of the local authority which were conferred mainly by Section 13 of the 1938 Act. The remainder of the Regulations, except in so far as Regulation 7 applies to the giving out of shrimps, prawns and onions for preparation or packing by outworkers, operated from the 1st July, 1956, while this exception was dealt with by an amending Regulation postponing the operative date until 1st January, 1957.

In view of the widened scope of the new law, dealing as it does with such a variety of catering and food premises, including not only shops, restaurants and hotels, but also licensed premises, canteens, clubs, schools and other institutions, it had to be realised that to achieve full compliance with the Regulations and to inspect and fully record all the premises involved would be a long term and progressive task, dovetailed into the normal routine of the department. The first step taken, therefore, was to issue to the occupiers of all food premises concerned a letter enclosing a fully explanatory pamphlet, and stating that although an inspection would be made in due course, if any one wanted an early visit for advice on specific points this would be arranged.

By the end of March, 236 of these communications had been sent out, 65 of them also including posters for display for the attention of staff. As a result, several requests for special visits and advice were received and dealt with before the routine work began.

Detailed inspections of 87 premises had been carried out by the end of the year. During these, the opportunity was taken of discussing the Regulations with the occupiers, emphasising the intention of the new legislation, and the need for the co-operation of staff. In 20 cases written confirmation was sent of contraventions noted during inspection, these being summarised as follows:-

Regulation 6	-	1
" 14	-	2
" 16	-	15
" 17	-	6
" 18	-	11
" 19	-	3
" 20	-	1
" 21	-	1
" 23	-	8

Most of these were found towards the end of the year, and there was therefore quite a "carry-over" of work awaiting re-inspection and writing-off, only 3 premises being thus dealt with during the period under review, the contraventions complied with being:-

Regulation 16	-	3
" 17	-	2
" 18	-	2

Three certificates of exemption were issued in respect of Regulation 16(1) and (2).



## 1. Food Hygiene - continued -

Earlier in the year it was found that all matters outstanding under Section 13 of the 1938 Act had been dealt with, except at one shop where structural alterations were awaited. In this case the effect of the Regulations was taken into account and an amended notification was sent to the firm concerned.

The register of food premises now includes the following, which are classified in accordance with the main heading of goods sold (e.g. a grocer who also sells bread is classified under "grocer" only):-

Bread and Cake shops (including premises with bakehouses)	9
Butchers	16
Fishmongers and Fish Fryers	7
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	16
Grocers	53
Sweet Confectioners	18
Vegetarian Stores	1
Food Manufactories	4
Catering Establishments:-	
Restaurants, Cafés and Snack Bars	34
Public Houses and Hotels	42
Office and Works Canteens	21
Private Schools and Children's Homes	8
School Canteens	12
Nursing Homes and Institutions	3
Clubs	5
	125
Total:-	249

## 2. Premises Registered under Section 16:

Manufacture of sausages	-	18
Manufacture of potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food	-	14
Storage and sale of ice-cream	-	85
Manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream	-	2

As in the last few years, neither of the two registered for manufacture produced their own ice-cream, but continued to buy prepacked brands.

## 3. Registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 to 1954:

The entries on the register at the end of the year may be summarised as follows:-

Number of Dairies	5
Number of Distributors with premises within the Urban District	10
Number of Distributors whose premises are outside the District	4



SHOPS ACT, 1950

During the year 128 visits were made for the purposes of this Act, although, of course, many other visits were made in connection with other matters. The Register of Shops totals 379 premises (including licensed premises) as set out below. Each of these is classified under the main heading of goods sold:

Antiques	7
Books	1
Boots and Shoes (Sales)	9
Boots and Shoes (Repairs & Accessories)	10
Bread and Cakes	8
Butchers	16
Children's Wear	4
China and Glass	2
Chemists	10
Coal Order Office	2
Corn and Seed	2
Cycle Repairs	2
Decorator's Sundries	2
Drapers and Haberdashers	8
Dyers and Cleaners	7
Electrical, Radio and Television	8
Fancy Goods	5
Fishmongers and Fish Fryers	7
Florists	4
Furnishers	8
Furriers	1
Grocers and General Stores	16
Gas Appliances	1
Glass Merchant	1
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	13
Grocers	37
Hairdressers	14
Ironmongers, Hardware, & Builder's Sundries	8
Jewellers	5
Leather Goods	1
Licensed Premises	42
Motor Vehicle Accessories	9
Music Shops	2
Newsagents and Stationers	11
Opticians	4
Outfitters	21
Pet Food Shops	1
Pet Shops	1
Photographic	4
Refrigerator Sales	1
Restaurants, Cafés, and Snack Bars	31
Sewing Machines	1
Sports Goods, Cycles and Toys	4
Tobacco and Confectionery	20
Vegetarian Stores	1
Wine Merchants	3
Wool Shop	2
Wholesale Greengrocer	1
Wholesale Tobacconist	1
<hr/>	
	379

The position regarding service of Notices is as follows:-

No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding at 1st January, 1956	6
No. of Preliminary Notices served	1
No. of Preliminary Notices complied with	4
No. of Preliminary Notices outstanding at 31st December, 1956	3
No. of Statutory Notices served	Nil
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	Nil



## CAMP SITES AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The caravan sites in the Box Hill Road area continued to be the subject of many hours of meetings and discussions - with officers of the County Council, with site owners or their representatives, and with two classes of caravan residents - those who were already in the area but had been given notice to leave some particular site or other by the owner, and those who had obtained employment in or near Dorking and wanted to place a caravan in the district.

Practically all those affected in one or other of these ways came to the office. Some were truculent, some pleaded, but all presented a human problem. To answer in either case was simple - to those under notice it was pointed out that the site owners had the right to require occupants to leave, as there was no security of tenure, and in fact in most cases residential caravans should not have been accepted in the first place; to the would-be newcomers the answer had to be that no more residential caravans could be accepted, and if any site owner should take them in, it would be entirely contrary to the policy of the County Council and the Urban District Council, and might give rise to action later.

As I said earlier, the answers were simple, but to convince each enquirer that his case was not one which warranted special consideration and consequent exclusion from general policy was often a long drawn out task, in addition to which it was an unpalatable one, for no hope could be offered.

So far as the actual sites were concerned, no serious public health problems arose. Water supplies, sanitary facilities, and collection of refuse were adequate, and there was the usual improvement in the caravans themselves, noticeable each year as more modern types replace older models.

## HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954

### HOUSING ACT, 1936

No applications for certificates of disrepair, under Part II of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, were received.

Action under the Housing Act, 1936, was started on properties included in the Council's proposals submitted to the Minister last year in accordance with Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act.

Detailed inspections were made of the two areas which in the opinion of the Public Health Committee should receive priority.

A report on the inspections was submitted to the Committee, who then viewed the properties and recommended that the areas be declared as Clearance Areas. The Housing Committee and the Finance Committee considered and agreed to the aspects relevant to their functions and as a consequence, at a meeting of the Council held on the 31st July, the two areas were declared to be Clearance Areas and the maps referred to in the Resolutions were sealed.



## Housing Act - continued -

The properties affected were:-

(a) Dorking No. 1 (Cotmandene, etc.), Clearance Area.

Nos. 21 to 38 Cotmandene.

Nos. 21 to 26 Dene Street.

Of these 24 houses, Nos. 29 to 33 Cotmandene were already empty and in the possession of the Council, and these five were demolished before the end of the year.

(b) Dorking No. 2 (Church Gardens, etc.), Clearance Area.

Nos. 2/3 to 28, 30 to 33, Church Gardens.

Nos. 1 to 6 Mount Pleasant.

Nos. 1 to 20 St. Martin's Place.

The Council also set up a Special Committee, to be called "The Clearance Areas and Re-development Committee" (a) to consider all Clearance Areas declared or proposed to be declared by the Council with a view to making recommendations as to which areas of land (if any) should be acquired by the Council; and (b) to secure the clearance and re-development of the areas of land so acquired in accordance with proposals to be formulated and submitted by the Special Committee for the approval of the Council.

In addition to clearance area action under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936, the following properties were dealt with:-

Houses demolished as the result of formal procedure under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936 .....	1
Unfit houses closed .....	1
Parts of buildings closed (Section 12)..	3

## PEST CONTROL

### 1. RATS AND MICE -

The summary of the work for the twelve months 1st April 1956 to 31st March, 1957, as returned to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food, is as follows:-



	TYPE OF PROPERTY					(5)	
	Non-Agricultural				(4)		
	(1) Local Auth- ority	(2) Dwelling Houses	(3) All Others (including Business Premises)				
1. Number of properties in L.A.'s. District	10	6201	775	6986	29		
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:							
(a) Notification	-	65	33	98	-		
(b) Survey under the Act	3	1022	46	1071	19		
(c) Otherwise	7	268	362	637	2		
3. Total inspections - including re-inspections	34	2533	1895	4462	25		
4. Number of properties inspected (in Sec. 2.) found to be infested by:							
(a) Rats { Major	-	-	-	-	-		
Minor	3	306	19	328	1		
(b) Mice { Major	-	-	-	-	-		
Minor	-	52	28	80	-		
5. Number of infested properties (in Sec.4) treated by L.A.	3	358	47	408	1		
6. Total treatments carried out (including re-treatments)	10	409	86	505	-		
7. Number of Notices served under Section 4 of the Act:							
(a) Treatment	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		
(b) Structural Works	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following Notice under Section 4 of the Act	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		
9. Legal Proceedings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		
10. Number of "Block" control chemes carried out	66, involving 236 premises.						



## Rats and Mice - continued -

In addition, we continued the arrangement for regular inspection and treatment when necessary at the following premises, a charge being made in the case of business and industrial firms and Surrey County Council establishments:-

	<u>Number</u>
Provender and Seed Mills and Stores	3
Grocery and Provision Merchants	3
Bakehouses	1
Sausage Factory	1
Hotels	1
School Canteens	6
Office Canteens	1
General Hospital	1
Sewage Works	3
Refuse Tips	1
Council Depot	1

## Sewers:

Maintenance treatment on infested sections of sewers was carried out in September. In August we did the Annual 10% Test of sewer manholes in all sections of the system except where infestations were known to exist, 73 manholes being test-baited. No take was recorded.

The prebaiting and poison treatment was therefore necessary only on sections previously known to be infested. 21 manholes were prebaited, and 7 takes were recorded. Poison bait was laid at the 7 manholes concerned, and inspection next day showed that poisoned bait had been taken at 6 of them.

## 2. INSECT PESTS -

### (a) Bed-bugs and Fleas:

Infestations of bugs in two private houses and a Council house, and of fleas in two private houses, were treated by the use of insecticide. Two other private houses were similarly treated - the premises being extremely dirty and suspected of being verminous.

### (b) Common and German Cockroaches, and other Beetles:

Infestations dealt with during the year occurred in two hotels, a private nursing home, a shop, a hostel, one private house, and the Dorking General Hospital. In the latter case, which continued to be inspected and treated under an annual contract, 48 visits were made, during which the treatments and re-treatments of rooms numbered 225.

### (c) Red Ants (Pharaoh's Ant):

At the private nursing home dealt with in previous years 10 visits were made, the total room treatments and re-treatments numbering 46.

### (d) Garden Ants:

During the contract treatment at the Dorking General Hospital 34 rooms were treated. In addition, the department was called in to deal with infestations at a school canteen, a school domestic science room, a private school, an office block, a Council house, and six private houses.



(e) Mosquitoes:

One pond was sprayed with larvicide to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes.

(f) Bees:

Tile hanging of a private house and cavity walls of a Council house and a private house were sprayed owing to bees swarming.

(g) Wasps:

The number of wasps' nests reported as requiring attention was 97 - a considerable increase on those dealt with during the previous year.

(h) Flies:

By agreement with the Education Authority seven school canteens and the Central Kitchen, which prepares school meals for distribution to those schools which have no canteen kitchen of their own, were sprayed with insecticide as a measure of fly prevention.

Two private houses, and a room at the General Hospital were also sprayed to clear heavy infestations, and ground saturated by cesspool overflow was similarly treated on two occasions as a preventative measure.

(i) Moths:

One room at the Dorking General Hospital was treated.

(j) Furniture Beetle:

Affected woodwork and furniture were treated in three Council houses and one private house. Woodwork in the timber store at the Council Depot also required attention. Advice was given in other cases.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year twenty visits of enquiry were carried out in respect of cases of infectious diseases occurring in the District. In addition, fifty-eight visits were made for miscellaneous enquiries, and nine in connection with disinfection.

Three houses and one caravan were disinfected after the removal of T.B. cases, one house after Poliomyelitis, and two houses after other infectious diseases.

### PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Two licences were issued during the year in respect of the sale of pet animals. Inspection revealed that conditions were satisfactory.

### HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952, AND REGULATIONS, 1953.

Three visits were made to shops in connection with the inspection and testing of heating appliances (gas fires, electric fires, and oil heaters) exposed for sale. No action was necessary.









